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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Yeh-Hung Lai, et al

IMAGING ELEMENT HAVING IMPROVED CRACK PROPAGATION DURING CONVERSION

Serial No. 10/033,496

Filed 28 December 2001

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA. 22313-1450

Sir:

Group Art Unit: 1771

Examiner: Victor S. Chang

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Definition

flange [Show phonetics]

noun [C]

a flat surface sticking out from an object, which is used to fix it to something or to make it stronger:

The flange around the wheels on railway trains helps to keep them on the rails.

(from Cambridge Advanced Learner's Dictionary)

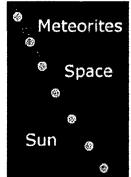
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flange [flanj] (plural flanges)

noun

collar for attaching or strengthening: a projecting collar, rim, or rib on an object for fixing it to another object, holding it in place, or strengthening it. Flanges are often found on pipes and shafts.

[Late 17th century. Origin uncertain: perhaps a variant of flanch "device at the side of an escutcheon." The current meaning evolved via "protruding rim" from "part that widens out."

flanged adjective

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